

Message Text

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ACTION ITFE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 H-02 DHA-02 ORM-01 INSE-00 VO-03

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R 220340Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5308

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL UDORN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 5704

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF: RELATIVES OF MRS. STANLEY E. THOMPSEN

SUBJ: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: VN RELATIVES OF MRS. STANLEY
E. THOMPSEN

REF: A. STATE 224761

B. VIENTIANE 4736

C. VIENTIANE 5302

D. STATE 167777

E. VIENTIANE 5649

1. CONGRESSMAN GUNN MCKAY INTERESTED (REF A).
2. CONSUL RECEIVED LETTER FROM MR. STANLEY E. THOMPSEN INQUIRING ABOUT STATUS OF HIS WIFE'S FAMILY WHO LIVE IN VIENTIANE ON JUNE 27. CONSUL ANSWERED LETTER SAME DAY, PROVIDING INFORMATION THOMPSEN REQUESTED. BECAUSE THOMPSEN'S LETTER CONTAINED TRANSPOSED NUMBERS IN ADDRESS, CONSUL'S REPLY WAS MISADDRESSED. THOMPSEN TELEPHONED EMBASSY ON SUBJECT JULY 7, AND WE SENT CABLE VIA DEPARTMENT (REF D) REPEATING INFORMATION IN LETTER.

3. TWO OF MRS. THOMPSEN'S BROTHERS VISITED CONSULAR SECTION VIENTIANE ON JULY 22. THEY EXPRESSED DESIRE THAT THEIR WHOLE FAMILY (14 PEOPLE) SHOULD TRAVEL TO U.S. IN REFUGEE PROGRAM.
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CONSUL EXPLAINED GENERAL GROUNDS OF ELIGIBILITY FOR PROGRAM

AND TOLD MRS. THOMPSEN'S BROTHERS THAT FAMILY COULD NOT REPEAT NOT TRAVEL TO U.S. DIRECTLY FROM VIENTIANE IN REFUGEE PROGRAM BUT MUST REACH UDORN OR BANGKOK BEFORE ENTERING REFUGEE STREAM. MRS. THOMPSEN'S BROTHERS STATED FAMILY HAD ALMOST NO FUNDS AND COULD NOT AFFORD TO GO TO UDORN AND AWAIT DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR PROGRAM. THEY SAID THEY PREFERRED TO WAIT IN VIENTIANE WHILE FIRST CHECKS OF THEIR ELIGIBILITY ACCOMPLISHED.

4. SEVEN ADULTS IN FAMILY SUBSEQUENTLY VISITED CONSULAR SECTION VIENTIANE TO PRESENT PROOFS OF THEIR SOUTH VIETNAMESE CITIZENSHIP AND TO EXECUTE NECESSARY AFFIDAVITS TO ESTABLISH THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH MRS. THOMPSEN. WHEN THIS WORK COMPLETED, WE SENT IN VISAS FALCON NAME CHECK ON FAMILY (REF C). WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED REPLY TO THIS CABLE.

5. IN LATE AUGUST, TWO OF MRS. THOMPSEN'S BROTHERS, VU DINH THINH AND VU DINH HOAN, ATTEMPTED TO REACH UDORN. IF THEY HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN THIS ATTEMPT, THEY PLANNED FOR REST OF FAMILY TO FOLLOW THEM. HOWEVER, THE TWO WERE PICKED UP BY THAI POLICE, HELD FOR MORE THAN A WEEK, THEN DEPORTED BACK TO LAOS. VU DINH THINH VISITED CONSUL IN VIENTIANE TO TELL THIS STORY AND TO SAY FAMILY NOW INTENDED TO WAIT LONGER IN VIENTIANE AS THEY AD SPENT WHAT LITTLE MONEY THEY HAD IN THIS ATTEMPT TO REACH UDORN AND DID NOT WISH TO TRY AGAIN IMMEDIATELY.

6. CONSUL VISITED UDORN AND BROUGHT UP THIS PROBLEM AND OTHERS WITH CONSUL THERE. CONSULATE UDORN EXPLAINED THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO INTERVENE SUCCESSFULLY WITH THAI POLICE ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES OUT OF LAOS ONLY WHEN IT CERTAIN THAT REFUGEES WOULD BE ADMITTED INTO U.S. REFUGEE PROGRAM. THIS NOT THE CASE FOR MRS. THOMPSEN'S BROTHERS. AT MEETING IN UDORN WE LEARNED THAT INS OFFICERS AT UTAPAO ARE APPLYING TO VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIANS WHO HAVE ARRIVED IN THAILAND FROM LAOS JULY 1 CUT-OFF DATE GIVEN IN REF D. WE SUBSEQUENTLY QUERIED DEPARTMENT ABOUT APPLICABILITY OF THIS CUT-OFF DATE TO VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIANS COMING OUT OF LAOS. (REF E)

7. WE UNABLE TO ADVISE MRS. STANLEY THOMPSEN OR HER FAMILY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN VIENTIANE OF NEXT STEP TO BE TAKEN UNTIL WER RECEIVED DEPARTMENT'S ANSWER ON APPLICABILITY OF JULY 1 CUT-OFF DATE. IF CUT-OFF DATE IS TO APPLY IN THIS AND SIMILAR CASES, YOU MAY WISH TO INFORM MRS. THOMPSEN AND CONGRESSMAN MCKAY OF STEPS MRS. THOMPSEN COU3PJ\$ *;7 A0?*+
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